

5

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A commodity selling apparatus for accepting an order of a commodity responsive to a request by a customer to purchase the commodity over a network and for directly shipping the ordered commodity to the customer, comprising:

order information acquisition means for acquiring the order information, prepared on accepting the request to purchase the commodity from the customer, over the network;

proposed-order determining means for determining a proposed order including a list of one or more related commodities determined to be connectable to the commodity based on related commodity information associated with the commodity, said related commodity information including purpose information, specifying the purpose of using or purchasing the commodity;

related commodity information transmission means for transmitting the proposed order over the network; and

commodity shipping command means for commanding the shipping of the commodity ordered to the customer based on the order information acquired by the said order information acquisition means,

wherein the order information acquisition means acquires the order information over the network following transmission of the proposed order by the related commodity information transmission means.